

Work in OPF hangs RSB panels on Discovery, removes panels from Atlantis

▲ **Shuttle Update:** Following the installation of the four new Rudder Speed Brake (RSB) actuators on **Discovery**, technicians continue to re-hang its four panels. **Atlantis** was powered up in support of mission processing for its future flight to the International Space Station. The four RSB panels and actuators were removed from the vehicle. The actuators will be X-rayed to determine whether the gears were assembled in the proper orientation and then will be sent to the vendor for a complete inspection. Left-hand RCC panel installation is complete, and 20 right-hand panels have been assembled prior to being hung.

▲ **ELV Update:** MESSENGER is at the Astrotech Space Operations facilities near Kennedy Space Center, where it is undergoing prelaunch testing. The spacecraft's radio system uplink and downlinks through the KSC/JPL interface with the Deep Space Network (MIL-71) was successfully tested. Continuing is autonomy testing, which verifies that MESSENGER has the ability to operate on its own when not in direct contact with Earth. Installation of thermal blankets has been completed as required on the schedule. The review to determine the readiness to begin stacking the launch vehicle is

scheduled to occur Wednesday. MESSENGER is a scientific investigation – by spacecraft – of the planet Mercury (left). The name comes from “Mercury Surface, Space ENvironment, Geochemistry, and Ranging,” highlighting the project's broad range of scientific goals. Launch of MESSENGER is scheduled for July 30.



◆ **Hurricane Awareness Training** — This training is scheduled at 1 p.m. May 18 in the Training Auditorium. This training is mandatory for all hurricane coordinators and alternates. It is also open to everyone with permission of your supervisor. The training will last about 1 hour and will feature speakers from Brevard County Emergency Management, 45 Weather Squadron, KSC Senior Management, and our Emergency Preparedness Office.

◆ **“Preparing Others To Create Their Vision”** — This seminar will introduce you to the concept of mentoring, and you will hear about the responsibilities and rewards of preparing others to create their vision. This opportunity is available to **all NASA KSC civil service employees and contractors** from 9 to 11 a.m.

Testing meets success on MESSENGER links with Deep Space Network

June 2 in the NASA Training Auditorium. The dynamic seminar will feature a panel of experienced individuals who have served as mentors, colleagues and advisors to all levels of students and faculty. This seminar is first-come, first-seated. For more information, please call or e-mail Cassandra Black at 7-3358 or Cassandra.black@nasa.gov.

◆ **KSC RehabWorks Grand Opening/Open House May 27** — Presentations by RehabWorks are from 10:30 to 11 a.m. in the O&C Mission Briefing Room, followed by an open house in the newly expanded facility (O&C/1135). For more information, go to the Web site <http://rehabworks.ksc.nasa.gov>.

◆ **The Asian Pacific Festival is Saturday** — The event is being held this year at F. Burton Smith Regional Park, S.R. 520 (west of I-95) from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tickets for adults and children 5 years and older are \$3. To buy tickets in advance, contact Marina Harris, 867-2729, or Mindy Vuong, 867-4096.

◆ **Did You Know?** You can go to <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/> for information on the ISS crew's activities aboard the Space Station, as well as sighting opportunities of the ISS from anywhere on Earth.